

WOMAN

Courage In the Hollow Life of the Social Climber — Ignorance of Not Asking Necessary Questions.

There is nothing so hollow as social superiority, and yet you see women killing themselves to obtain it. If there is any worse slavery than kow-towing to people who are all ready to snub you because they are higher up on the social ladder, why, I would like to hear about it. The woman who does not dare to have an opinion of her own for fear of offending, the woman who is always running after others and trying to please them, is wasting and putting to base uses the most precious gifts of heaven—her independence and her individuality.

Give it up, my dear friends. The goal is not worth the effort. Keep the friends who love you for what you are and let the others go.

What pleasure can there be in continually planning and scheming, in living beyond one's means, in dressing beyond one's purse, in worrying and struggling all the time?

Life itself is so beautiful if it is lived in the right way. Why do we spoil it by helping to erect imaginary barriers by making our fellow beings envious or uncomfortable and by raising unnaturally cruel and exacting idols that they may dominate our lives?

The Fight to Be Pleasant.

There is bravery of all kinds, that which is shown on the field of battle and that which you see in the hospital. But what about the plain, everyday bravery, the kind that bears its troubles alone?

Who shall say that is not a high form of courage?

After all, have we a right to inflict our troubles on our friends? They have enough of their own, it seems to me. Society is right in condemning the woman who is always talking about her afflictions. She is a coward, as much so as the man who places another in front of him to receive blows intended for himself.

The pluckiest woman I ever knew was no heroine, but she had her



HAD HER "BLUES" IN HER ROOM.

"blues" out in the solitude of her own room. Day after day I have seen that little woman shut herself in to fight against her depression, and she sat there, her head in her hands, until she could control herself, until she could go out among people with her head held high and a smile on her lips.

I have never heard her whine, and I have never heard her tell a "hard luck" or mournful story. I never see her with any other expression than a smiling one.

I tell you, that requires pluck.

Ask, Don't Bluff.

It is one of the worst signs of ignorance to be afraid to ask questions.

If you don't know a thing, ask what it is outright. Don't bluff, for by bluffing you show bad breeding and a lack of knowledge of the world besides.

I have seen few women of inferior education and social position who would ever admit they didn't know the meaning of anything, and they scarcely ever would own up that they were mistaken.

I have held conversations with such people out of pure mischief when I knew they were all at sea just for lack of asking a simple question, a question they would choke before they would utter. Their replies and their helpless flounderings have been as pitiful as they were absurd.

So much for the false pride of ignorance.

On the other hand, women who have traveled all over the world are never afraid to speak up and admit something is new to them. They ask questions all the time, and that is why they know something.

THE FIRST OFFER.

No Woman Should Accept It Without Due Consideration.

Notwithstanding the present popularity of the so called bachelor girl and the radical protests of the courageous sisterhood which would abolish matrimony until certain wrongs are righted the fact remains that marriage continues to be the goal of the normal woman's ambition, and it is well for the sake of humanity that it should be so.

That does not mean that the average unmarried young woman is ready to admit that matrimony is the desired haven into which her heart is pining to be steered. Nor does it mean that every really sensible girl will marry simply for the sake of being married. The old fashioned method of being led along the path she is willing to tread by the hand of love is not likely to become obsolete.

It is the best method that has ever been tried, but no scheme has yet been devised to free it from certain disagreeable possibilities. One of the most frequent and saddest mistakes is for a young girl to imagine that the first masculine hand held out to her is the one her own may clasp affectionately and fearful that should she pause to consider Dame Fortune may pass her by and with the detested possibility of old maidenhood ever before her to jump at the first proposal made to her.

In common with so many of the vital questions of life, "Shall a girl accept her first offer?" depends entirely on circumstances—and the girl.

It is a rather heartless theory professed by many superior persons that a woman is greatly to be blamed who permits matters to reach the proposal stage until she has weighed the pros and cons accurately and is prepared to accept what is offered her. That is all very well in theory. In practice it doesn't always work. In real life there are men who propose in positively thunderclap fashion. The object of their attention has scarcely begun to recognize what is impending and, of course, has not taken the first step toward framing her answer when the most perplexing question ever asked her confronts her like a fate.

Under such circumstances how can she be expected to know her own mind? If she happens to be very young and inexperienced in masculine ways, it may be her first intimation that love has sought her out. Flattered and made temporarily incompetent by the unexpected revelation, her trembling "yea" may be murmured faintly when a decided "nay" would better suit the case.

For the girl with brothers who has been accustomed to male society from



PROPOSING IN THUNDERCLAP FASHION.

nursery days the problem is less difficult. She is infinitely less likely to make a travesty of life by accepting the first talking biped that offers than that other maiden whose only knowledge of men has been obtained from books and plays. The former girl has learned to know men as they are. She is too clever to be flattered into accepting the first man who proposes just because he happens to be the first man.

It is quite another matter for her unsophisticated little sister. All of a sudden she is expected to decide as to her whole after career. She is too confused to think of anything save "yea" and "no," and she finds it almost impossible to choose between them. In her agitation she realizes that to speak either may plunge her into lifelong regret.

What she should do in such an emergency—how seldom does it occur to her!—is to ask for time in which to come to a reasonable decision. It will be granted very unwillingly by the impetuous lover, who will probably grow more or less eloquent in his effort to procure an immediate favorable answer, yet if he is of the right sort he cannot refuse to give her a month or even a year in which to make up her mind. All things being equal, she may regard it as a proof of the gentleness of his profession that he is willing to "give her the refusal" of

himself for a certain specified time.

She must not be afraid of losing her opportunity. Should he become lukewarm or even listless during the period of his probation she may thank her stars that she was wise enough to give him the opportunity before it was forever too late.

Now, should a girl accept the first man who offers?

Never, unless she has been convinced beyond the shadow of a doubt that her refusal would shatter her prospect of a happy and peaceful life.

SHIRLEY BREESE.

Congress Accomplished Little

Washington, Dec. 10.—For nearly five hours the house of representatives yesterday considered the bill providing for the taking of the thirteenth and subsequent decennial census, and passed it without material change. From the very outset of the debate, it became evident that the progress of the measure toward passage would be impeded by numerous amendments and by the arguments which they developed.

At 4:35 p. m. the house adjourned. Day in the Senate.

The session of the senate yesterday was chiefly devoted to the formal presentation of departmental reports and the introduction of bills.

Senator Johnston, of Alabama, introduced a bill to reinstate former Cadets Rossell and Weaver, dismissed from the military academy for hazing. He declared that their punishment was excessive, and said that every senator was hazed by being given unimportant assignments and being restricted in his privileges. After a short executive session, the senate at 1:22 o'clock adjourned.

More Electric Power for Atlanta.

Atlanta, Dec. 10.—North Georgia Electric Company has been purchased from the receivers by C. Elmer Smith, of the S. Morgan Smith Company, of York, Pa. The county board granted Mr. Smith the right to install poles and furnish power to factories which are near the city limits.

He is the president of the company which owns the Bull Shuice plant, and is a member of the firm of Morgan, Smith & Co., who are the largest manufacturers of turbine water wheels in the world. The purpose of Mr. Smith is to furnish electric power from the power plant at Gainesville. Mr. Smith owns a large number of similar plants through the south.

Aged Woman Left Millions.

New York, Dec. 10.—The funeral of Miss Mary Goodwin Pinkney, credited with being one of the wealthiest women in the world, was held yesterday, age 99 years. Most of Miss Pinkney's estate is in real estate in Harlem and her wealth was variously estimated at from \$10,000,000 to \$50,000,000. Her death will result in the release of a great deal of valuable property north of the Harlem river.

Anniston, Ala., Dec. 10.—In a row at Alexandria Tuesday evening in which J. B. Turner and Cliff Chatman figured, the latter was shot in the face, neck and eyes by Turner with a shotgun, and was seriously injured.

North Pacific Train Ditched.

Bismarck, N. D., Dec. 10.—The North Dakota Limited, on the Northern Pacific, went into the ditch near McKenzie, 20 miles east of here last night because of spreading rails. The entire train, save the observation car, turned over, one man is killed and many injured.

Col. Robertson Dead.

Tallahassee, Fla., Dec. 10.—General Fred L. Robertson died suddenly late Tuesday at the Elks' Club. Heart failure is assigned as the cause of his death. The deceased was 85 years of age.

Prominent Alabama Man Dead.

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 10.—W. F. Vandiver, for many years an active business leader in the state, died yesterday from heart failure. He had been in bad health for a year or more, having recently spent several months abroad and in New York infirmaries.

Four Daughters Born to Professor.

Puñico, Mo., Dec. 10.—Four daughters were born yesterday to Prof. Reuben F. Jones, head of the schools here and a school commissioner of Stoddard county. One baby died, but the others bid fair to thrive.

Champion for Job Printing

Your Insurance

Are You Protected from Fire

Should your property burn tonight have you an Insurance Policy that would protect you? One that you could collect promptly without danger of litigation or bothersome "red tape"

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Protect you in all respects. In case of fire you get your money without delay. I represent the strongest line of companies in the land. The old reliable ones that are tried and proven

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Fire, Boiler, Plate Glass, Builder's Risks, Etc. The best companies in each case. In this age it is needless to argue the necessity for Insurance. The only question is, "Does it protect?" If carried with the companies I represent it does. You will make no mistake if you insure with me. I will appreciate your business and give it my careful, prompt attention.

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Mrs. C. D. Phulley, Marble Falls, Texas, writes: "I have used **Herbine** and find it the best liver corrective I have ever tried. It done my family as well as myself a world of good, and I recommend it to all my friends. I never suffer from headaches anymore."

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